

Implementing UNSCR 1540 National Action Plan

Following Up to the OSCE 1540 Workshop

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UNSCR 1540

- The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials constitutes a threat to international peace and security.
- With resolution 1540 (2004), the UN Security Council adopted the first international instrument that deals with this threat in an integrated and comprehensive manner.
- The resolution establishes binding obligations for all States and is aimed at preventing and deterring illicit access to such weapons and weapon-related materials.

Shape of U.S. Action Plan

- The United States completed its National Action Plan on May 31, 2006 as a working document.
- This synopsis outlines views from the U.S. interagency on action priorities taking into account the renewal of the Committee to focus on possible national steps to take over the next two years by U.S. agencies.
- We recognize that each country action plan will be tailored to its own national priorities.
- Our initial way forward focused on ways to strengthen nonproliferation capacity via on-going assistance programs and projects, particularly by working with regional organizations such as the OSCE, ARF, and OAS as suggested in the report of the 1540 Committee and endorsed in a PRST.

Work of Committee Since 2004 – Support for Action Plans

- The matrices provide useful indications of where capacity or other 1540-implementation gaps may exist.
- The United States is working with the 1540 Committee to factor the Committee's analyses set forth in these matrices into its decisions regarding assistance in areas related to 1540, as well as domestic steps.
- Specifically, the United States will work cooperatively with the Committee to: 1) develop useful information such as identification of gaps in laws and controls; 2) outline regional and state-specific assistance priorities for stemming proliferation activity; and 3) assist in coordination of assistance requests so that donors can work together and with recipients to help one another implement 1540 obligations

USG Road Map or Action Plan for Supporting 1540 Committee Implementation -- The Next Two Years & Regional Efforts

- *Priority 1: Developing useful information to identify gaps in laws*

The United States seeks to work with the Committee to identify gaps in States' capacity and to begin to prioritize implementation.

- *Priority 2: Outlining regional and state-specific assistance priorities for stemming proliferation activity*

Given the Committee's work program under UNSCR 1673, it is uniquely situated to affect coordination of donors in making assistance decisions.

- *Priority 3: Assisting in coordination of assistance requests so that donor states can work together to help states implement their 1540 obligations*

The Committee could convene and chair meetings in which donor countries discuss their on-going assistance, highlight perceived gaps in aid, and share information or assessments regarding assistance.

USG Assistance Programs

- Interagency update Completed October 2006
- a. Type(s) of Assistance: Support for UNSCR 1540
- b. Scope: Through various U.S. assistance programs, the United States works with countries globally to develop legal and regulatory infrastructure, implementation experience, and/or resources to fulfill the provisions outlined in the resolution through bilateral programs and as an active participant in multilateral programs.
- c. Region(s): All
- d. Subject(s): The list shows the many programs that the United States is engaged in that support implementation of UNSCR 1540. It provides concrete examples of the areas in which the United States has experience and expertise.

Using Example Provided By OSCE 1540 Workshop To Establish Priorities

- 1) Work collectively to support the work of the UNSCR 1540 Committee, as well as efforts to promote UNSCR 1540's full implementation by all States as supported by UNSC Resolution 1673.
- 2) Implement a flexible system that responds to assistance requests for the USG and coordinate with other governments on technical assistance to enable recipients to meet their 1540 requirements.
 - Put in place a review mechanism within the USG.
 - Identify programs that should be used to implement requests.
 - Develop process for liaison and exchange of information with States.

Using Example Provided By OSCE 1540 Workshop – Continued Part 2

- 3) Work with other Security Council and UN members to maintain senior level attention on UNSCR 1540 implementation.
 - Encourage Governments to coordinate outreach and milestones for the next two years of 1540 implementation.
 - Ascertain donor governments' priorities so that outreach to governments to help implement UNSCR 1540 can move forward.
 - Promote joint demarches, workshops, discussions in existing multilateral fora, and regional organizations.
- 4) Support efforts by States to address proliferation financing.
 - Include reference to proliferation finance in all discussions.
 - Note the importance of this aspect of 1540 in outreach.

What About OSCE Follow Up?

- OSCE Workshop Mentioned Prominently in Lima, Peru and Accra, Ghana UN outreach, OAS, ARF, and 1540 Committee meetings.
- OSCE has experience across a range of security issues among its diverse membership, and this mirrors the recent PRST in Security Council.
- All OSCE members have submitted national reports to the 1540 Committee.
- The 1540 Committee specifically seeks to cooperate with regional Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), such as OSCE, in its outreach efforts. In addition, the OSCE has the added benefit of partnering with States in the Mediterranean and Asia.
- OSCE has practical experience in cooperating with other international bodies; can demonstrate this cooperation by sharing documents from the November Workshop with the 1540 Committee.

Challenges for Implementation?

- Meeting all national obligations under UNSC Resolution 1540 is a long-term undertaking, and all could benefit from improved implementation.
- OSCE members have, however, implemented many of their obligations under the resolution. As a result, they are in a good position to think about next steps such as common or best practices.
- Another possibility, for example, is that OSCE members can provide a dialogue with other States with experience in Border security and controls.
- OSCE interest can prompt other regional organizations to host similar dialogue, and encourage broader implementation of UNSCR 1540.

Summary – Way Ahead

- Each action plan will be tailored to national capacity and priorities.
- There is much to be gained by follow up action by OSCE with regard to UNSCR 1540 and action plans.
- We would like to capitalize on action plans as a useful way to communicate with the committee, its experts, and for the interagency process likely created because of UNSCR 1540.
- Work will soon be underway on preparations for the UNSCR 1540 report on implementation – regional endorsement and cooperation with the Committee will help to make this a robust report reflecting the wide degree of implementation underway but not necessarily captured in New York without action plans.